



First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Weekly Update to the State Single Points of Contact – May 4, 2015

FirstNet News

- Webinars have been scheduled for 5/6 and 5/8 to recap the April 24 Special Board Meeting, which focused on an overview of the Special Notice and draft RFP documents, for our key public safety stakeholders. The April 24 Board documents are available on the [FirstNet website](#).
- FirstNet will be hosting an Industry Day 5/14, which is open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. Pre-registration is required to attend the event in person, and FirstNet requests that you limit in person attendance to one individual per state/territory or organization, as space will be limited. If you are planning to attend onsite, please register by sending an email to FirstNetIndustryDay@firstnet.gov with the name, title, and company/organization for each attendee. FirstNet will webcast the Industry Day on its website. Pre-registration is not required for the webcast. For questions about Industry Day, please contact FirstNetIndustryDay@firstnet.gov. More information is available on the updated Doing Business with FirstNet webpage and in our recent press release at: <http://www.firstnet.gov/news/firstnet-hold-industry-day-may-14-will-begin-accepting-requests-one-one-meetings-may-15>
- We held a consultation meeting last week in South Carolina with 49 state and local attendees. This week there are two consultation meetings scheduled in West Virginia and Rhode Island. We have held 23 consultation meetings involving more than 1,500 state, tribal, and local representatives. Overall, we have connected with more than 15,000 public safety and private sector stakeholders through 175 outreach and consultation engagements in fiscal year 2015 to date.
- The [pre-publication version of the Third Notice](#) is available on the FirstNet website and on the [Federal Register website](#). It is scheduled to be published on 5/5. This Third Notice responds to comments and further clarifies proposed interpretations related to the definition and scope of the term “public safety entity” as used in FirstNet’s enabling legislation and as discussed in the First Notice. Comments in response to this Third Notice will be due 30 days after it’s published; an FAQ on the Third Notice is available here: <http://firstnet.gov/resources>.
- The [Government Accountability Office \(GAO\) recently released a report on FirstNet](#). The FirstNet response may be found in Appendix IV on pages 65-66 of the report.

- Last week, FirstNet participated in the Government Information Technology Executive Council (GITEC) Summit, the 2015 Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System Conference, the Minnesota Public Safety Interoperable Communications Conference, the California USDA Rural Development Grant Managers Conference, the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) Fly-In, the 2015 Wireless Infrastructure Show, the Canada-United States Communications Interoperability Working Group (CANUS CIWG) meeting and the Metro Fire Chiefs Conference.
- This week, FirstNet will be participating in APCO's Annual Public Safety Broadband Summit & Expo, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Tribal Telecom, LLC 4th Annual Tribal Telecom and Technology Conference, the Wisconsin Wireless Association, the FirstNet Association DC-Based Staff Briefing and the Emergency Communications Preparedness Center Executive Committee meeting.
- To date, FirstNet has received 50 of 56 completed consultation checklists. Confirmed upcoming initial consultation meetings are: West Virginia (5/5), Rhode Island (5/6), Louisiana (5/13), Arkansas (5/14), Virgin Islands (5/19), Maine (5/20), Idaho (5/21), Connecticut (5/27), New Hampshire (6/9), New Mexico (6/10), Ohio (6/11), Vermont (6/16), Kansas (6/17), Wisconsin (6/18), Illinois (7/14), Alabama (7/15), Georgia (7/21), California (7/28-29), Tennessee (7/23), Pennsylvania (8/4), Hawaii (8/11-12), American Samoa (8/13-14), Indiana (8/26), Michigan (9/1) and New Jersey (9/3). An updated schedule can be viewed on the [website tracker](#).

News from the Public Safety Advisory Committee's Tribal Working Group (TWG)

- The TWG has a conference call scheduled for 5/5.

News from the States and PSAC Associations

- A FirstNet briefing for Washington DC-based staff representatives of the public safety and state/local/tribal associations is 5/7; this is a follow up to an earlier briefing held in September 2014. Currently we have 35 representatives attending from 26 organizations.

Media Watch

**The information provided is copied as-is from the media outlet source and is not edited by FirstNet. Links to non-Federal Government websites do not constitute endorsement of any product, service, organization, company, information provider, or content. Clicking on non-*

Department of Commerce hyperlinks will direct you to websites that are not under the Government's control.

Traditional Media

This week saw a large volume of media reports about FirstNet activities, including recap of the Board meeting, release of the Special Notice/Draft RFP documents, the NASCIO fly-in event, GAO report findings, and the Industry Day announcement. Going forward, we anticipate additional reports on the Second Notice comments, as well as NTIA's decision to restart the LA-RICS project under the revised plan.

TR Daily: FirstNet to hold Industry Day May 14

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) today announced that it plans to hold an Industry Day May 14 to discuss its recently released special notice and request for proposals (RFP) (TRDaily, April 27). The event will be held from 1-4 p.m. in the Dallas L. Peck Memorial Auditorium at the U.S. Geological Survey building in Reston, Va., which is where FirstNet is based. The Industry Day will also be webcast. "This is a key opportunity for members of the public safety community, the vendor community, and the public to engage in a dialogue with FirstNet about our proposed acquisition approach to deploy the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN)," said FirstNet acting Executive Director TJ Kennedy. "We encourage local, state, tribal, and federal agencies, market participants, and the public to participate in this event and in future opportunities to provide direct feedback to FirstNet on acquisition matters affecting the NPSBN." FirstNet also announced today that will begin on May 15 accepting requests for meetings with vendors.

GovTech: State CIOs Seek Help on Cyber, Answers on FirstNet

<http://www.govtech.com/state/State-CIOs-Seek-Help-on-Cyber-Answers-on-FirstNet.html>

State CIOs hope to secure more federal support for cybersecurity efforts, more details about FirstNet and more options for broadband grants as they meet with officials in Washington, D.C., this week. Multiple state CIOs are meeting with officials from the White House, federal agencies and Congress Wednesday as part of the NASCIO Midyear Conference to focus attention on state-level IT issues and press for policy changes.

GCN: FirstNet releases draft RFP

<http://gcn.com/articles/2015/04/29/firstnet-draft-rfp.aspx>

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Board released a draft RFP for the construction, operation, maintenance and improvement of the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN) for local, state, regional, tribal and federal first responders. To date, FirstNet has published 13 RFIs and held multiple meetings with vendor meetings and state officials to determine how to best leverage existing capabilities and best practices to meet the needs of a nationwide public safety network. With this draft RFP, it is seeking comments on all aspects of the acquisition strategy/approaches, including the proposed pricing concepts and operational architecture principles.

Fierce Wireless: Regional carriers urge FirstNet to 'maximize interoperability'

http://www.fiercewireless.com/tech/story/regional-carriers-urge-firstnet-maximize-interoperability/2015-04-29?utm_campaign=SocialMedia

The Competitive Carriers Association (CCA) wants the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) to adopt technical requirements for the National Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) that maximize interoperability of the network. The CCA made its stance known when it filed its comments with FirstNet earlier this week. CCA also is urging FirstNet to provide states the opportunity to evaluate detailed FirstNet plan information in the opt-out process and to clarify key concepts set out in the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, FirstNet's enabling legislation.

Web and Social Media

The Special Notice and Draft RFP documents received considerable attention over social media, as did the CIO meeting. The FirstNet Twitter account has grown to over 2,130 followers; LinkedIn 686; Google+ 40; and YouTube has 106 subscribers. FirstNet blogs are available at: <http://www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog>